From the Principal

You might not have been a fan of Reggae Music but Bob Marley had a point when he sang, “You just can’t live that negative way. Make way for the positive day.” Each day is a new beginning for each one of us to start afresh in a positive way.

Here’s a story, to reflect on, titled, “The Wise Donkey”.

“One day a farmer’s donkey fell into a well. The animal cried miserably for hours as the farmer tried to work out what to do. Finally, the farmer decided that the donkey was old and the well had to be filled in anyway; it just wasn’t worth the effort to retrieve the old donkey. The farmer invited his neighbours to come over and help him. Each grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. When the donkey realised what was happening, it cried horribly, then, to everyone’s amazement it quietened down. When the farmer looked into the well, he was astonished to see the donkey shake each shovel of dirt off its back and take a step upwards. This sequence continued until the donkey began to appear. Before long, it stepped over the edge of the well and trotted off.”

Author unknown.

And the moral? Well, use each of your problems as stepping stones. We will never get out of our “deepest wells” by doing nothing. We need to shake off the negatives and “Make way for a positive day”. Additionally, acting in a positive way does not mean that we ignore life’s less pleasant situations but that we approach the unpleasantness in a more positive and productive way. What a Wise Donkey!

So, how do we teach our children to be wise and positive in the decisions and choices they will have to make? It is not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are. As Christians, we believe in a positive outcome in life by our faith in a loving God. Through prayer, Christians believe that we can make use of what Jesus called, “the Kingdom of God within you.” Luke 17:21. When we are tempted to give in and say we can’t do something, St. Paul has this encouragement, “I can do all things in Him who strengthens me.” Phil. 4: 8.

Christians realise that optimistic, positive thinking needs to be tempered with realism, which is not the same as being negative.

Being a Christian, means being an actively positive person....what a great example, in our daily life, this can be for the young people for whom we care.

“God, my Father, increase my confidence and awareness of Your Spirit, Your Kingdom, within me, as You prompt me to live the Gospel message of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.”

Lorraine Walker
From the Assistant Principal
Administration

Visible Learning Language
With all schools in Brisbane Catholic Education embracing the principles and pedagogies embedded in Visible Learning, it is most encouraging to see and hear the language of Visible Learning being consistently used in our classrooms. This language is now also being used on many of the weekly awards presented to students on Assembly. Here at Guardian Angels we have a group of teachers who are currently working on reviewing the back page of our report template to incorporate Visible Learning language. We hope this will communicate clearly to parents, the Learning Powers their child is using to access their learning.

Parent Portal
The Parent Portal is one of our main forms of communication with parents, which is why it is of the utmost importance that we have your current email address on our records here at school. When accessing the Parent Portal, parents need to click on the “Refresh” icon on your computer to allow the program to give you the most up to date information. If you don’t refresh your browser, the information you see may not be current.

Year Level Curriculum Planning
Next week all our teachers will be involved in curriculum planning meetings in readiness for Term 2. Our teachers meet in year level teams to plan the learning and teaching contexts in which your children will engage next term. This planning covers all areas of the National Curriculum and ensures rich and consistent learning opportunities for all.

P&F Meeting
Our next P&F Meeting will take place next Tuesday 8 March commencing at 7pm in the Convent. All parents are warmly invited to come along and find out about the exciting program of events for the year ahead. The P&F provides a forum for parents to ask questions about what happens here at GA, so please come along if you possibly can.

Book Club
A reminder that Book Club orders close next Thursday 10 March. All orders must be placed online at www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP.

Have a wonderful week everyone.
Dawn Morrissey

From the Assistant Principal
Religious Education

Lent – Caritas Australia
This week’s Project Compassion focuses on Papua New Guinea. In Papua New Guinea poverty has occurred over many generations, which has led to lots of challenges in Dominic’s community like fighting and theft. Not having the things they need to live make it hard for the community to live peacefully. When Dominic went to the “Community Conversations” program run by the Sisters of Notre Dame and Caritas Australia, he learnt lots of problem solving skills. Now Dominic helps lead his community towards a brighter and more peaceful future. Thank you to all families for your support of this year’s Project Compassion Appeal.

Easter Celebration
Preparations are well and truly under way for this year’s Easter Celebration. Children from all year levels are busy learning songs and actions for this celebration. Everyone is invited to come along on Wednesday 23rd March at 6.30pm to watch the performance in the Shed at the Mt Carmel Campus. All children will be involved in the performance and will need to wear their school uniform. Please mark this date in your diary and come along as we retell the events that occurred during Holy Week. It is bound to be a great night!

Virtue
This fortnight each class will be looking at the virtue of Enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is being inspired – full of spirit. It is being cheerful and happy. It is doing something wholeheartedly, with zeal and eagerness – giving 100% to what you do. Being enthusiastic is being excited about something, looking forward to it. It comes from a positive attitude. You are practising enthusiasm when you:

- Let yourself enjoy looking forward to something
- Give 100% to what you are doing
- Think positively – look on the bright side of things
- Smile, laugh and enjoy what you do
- Think of imaginative ways to get things done; and
- Enjoy the wonders of life

Reflection
“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”
Hebrews 13:16

Blessings for the coming week,
Kind regards
Debbie Young
Learning and Teaching News

Following on from the ‘thesis’ I wrote in last week’s newsletter ... (for those beautiful parents who don’t yet know elements of my ‘extraordinary’ sense of humour ... I didn’t really write a thesis, but I AM reasonably well known for the ‘verbose flair with which I compose’. In other words, I always seem to write A LOT). Anyway, last week I wrote about the Twilight; professional learning for teachers conducted throughout one afternoon/early evening. During this extended session, we as a professional learning community, outlined the focus areas for 2016 that will guide us towards our ultimate goals for 2016, which of course are centered around i) the IMPACT of our teaching on students’ learning and ii) how we respond appropriately to relevant teaching and learning data to keep moving our students’ learning forward to show progress.

In order for us to work towards these ‘big picture’ goals, every teacher has engaged in a focussed professional goal setting process that enables each person to identify where they are positioned in our learning journey to make learning visible. Over the next two weeks, I will meet with every teacher to identify and discuss their own professional learning goals, outline specific strategies that will help them to achieve their goal and what evidence we will use as explicit measures of success. This process is very similar to practices we want to move towards with our students. As I am engaging in this process with the teachers, so too will they eventually engage in the same processes with their learners, where we will focus specifically on goals to progress their reading, writing, number and perhaps even for some, behaviour choices. No matter the context, it’s all about effective teaching and learning.

This is a really exciting time at Guardian Angels; fraught with some nervous tension, but with a view to how we can potentially impact the learning of EACH student in positive ways.

We, as professionals, will ourselves be calling on our LEARNING POWERS to ensure effective learning for ourselves:

- We will be reflective learners who constantly review and respond to our own practices to move learning forward.
- We will be wondering learners who are always considering the possibilities and potential of doing things differently and trying something new.
- We will be connecting learners who will keep building on what we already know and can do to further enhance our teaching.
- We will be risk taking learners who will courageously push ourselves beyond our comfort zones to work towards even more effective pedagogy.
- We will be persevering learners who will stick at things even when they are challenging or make us feel anxious about the possibility of change.

Spotlight on Spectacular Staff at Guardian Angels

In this week’s Spotlight on Spectacular Staff, I would like to publicly acknowledge the work of our amazing teacher librarian: Mrs Carolyn Matta. The students and staff at Guardian Angels are truly blessed with this most efficient, organised and highly competent teaching colleague. Carolyn always works tirelessly in the best interests of both our beautiful students and our hard working teaching staff. She supports our educational endeavours in so many ways; resourcing, information sharing, streamlining of processes to name only a few. Carolyn is always present during those times we are deepening our professional expertise and knowledge and she works incredibly hard to build her own professional capacity and support the teachers as we are all striving to make learning visible in our school and classrooms.

Thank you so much for everything you do for the students and staff of Guardian Angels Mrs Matta. We would be lost without you!

Blessings for the coming week ...

Nicole Waller
Primary Learning Leader
Learning Support News

Parent Helpers needed to volunteer for the Support - A-Reader Program (SAR)

Our Support-A-Reader program for Years 3-6 needs parents who are willing to donate an hour or two per week to hear students read.

We are looking for positive, caring volunteers to help our students become better readers! These students need practice reading sessions and will benefit from having a reading tutor twice to three times a week.

If you think you can help in this area, please contact us as soon as possible. We will be able to work around a time that suits you between 8.30am and 3.00pm.

If you have always wanted to be involved in school life and have not been sure how to do this, signing up to help with the SAR program is your perfect opportunity!

Please leave your name and number at the school front desk (either campus) if you are interested and we will contact you as soon as possible! If you have not already completed the student protection training and are not a registered volunteer with GA, please complete our online training and drop your registration sheet to the GA office.

Looking forward to meeting you,

Will Erwin
Support Teacher - Inclusive Education

Prep 2017 Enrolments

Enrolments are now open for families wishing to enrol their child in Prep in 2017. Enrolments close 24 March 2016. To be eligible to commence Prep next year, children must be turning 5 before 30 June 2017.

Application forms can be downloaded from our website. Completed applications should be brought into the school office and are to be accompanied by the child’s Birth Certificate, Baptism Certificate and immunisation records. Originals of these documents must be presented and will be copied while you wait. New families will also have an application fee of $30.

Please pass this information on to any family, friends or neighbours whom you know are considering Guardian Angels for their child.

Aim High and Fly

Congratulations to Summer Stevenson and Cooper Wasiak who both competed this week in the Met. East swimming carnival. Summer placed 7th and 8th in her respective events while Cooper had four first places and a second in his events - an outstanding achievement. As a result, Cooper will now compete for Met. East in the primary schools’ Qld State swimming championships.

WELL DONE TO BOTH STUDENTS!

Library News

Scholastic Book Club closes 10 March

Book Club orders MUST now be submitted and paid for online. No cash or cheques will be accepted.

How to order

1. Visit http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the iPhone and/or iPad app from the App Store.
2. Select State and school - QLD and Guardian Angels School, Wynnum
3. Follow the redirection (because we are a LOOP school) and click on "Order" at top of the screen.
4. Enter State and school again.
5. Follow instructions to enter you child/children's name/s and last name initial, their teacher/class, the items ordered and pay by credit card.
6. Your order will automatically be sent to school by Scholastic and the books will be distributed to child when they arrive.
7. DO NOT SEND ANY ORDER FORMS OR RECEIPTS TO SCHOOL.

Parent Class Coordinators

Help! A few classes are still in need of a Parent Class Coordinator. If your child is in one of the classes listed below and you are able to take on this valuable role please let your class teacher know asap.

Prep Blue, 4 Green, 5 Red, 6 Red and 6 Blue

Thank you for your help.
We have recently activated a new feature within our School Portal. This feature allows families to check their details as contained within our school database and to inform the school of necessary changes through an electronic form.

How to use

1. In the Parent Portal, click the **My Details** tab at the top of the page. You will see the details the school has stored about you.
2. Check through the details carefully and if everything is accurate, click the **Confirm Details** button.
3. If you need to change something, click the **Make Changes** button and change any information as required.
4. Click **Save** when finished. You will see a message informing you of your request.

*Please allow a few days for the school to process the changes. No further changes are possible until then.*

Notes

*The up and down arrows change the order of preference for the phone numbers you want the school to use.*

If you change Email 1, you will need to use the new email address to log into the portal.

*Should there be information you wish to inform the school of which is not contained within the form, please use the **Additional Information** box at the bottom of the form.*

We trust that you will find this new feature helpful and use it in conjunction with the other fantastic features contained within our School Portal.
### Second Hand Uniform Shop

Our second hand uniform shop is staffed by volunteers and is open at the following times:
- **Tuesday**: 2.20pm - 3pm
- **Wednesday**: 8am - 9am

### New Uniforms

UMS Pty Ltd moved last year to 2/205 Queensport Road North, Murarrie. Ph 3535 9500


Password for our school is gap2015

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### OSHC News

Any question or queries can be made by:

Phone: 0429 428 768 or 3393 6025

Email: wynnumoshc@bne.centacare.net.au

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### Weekend Mass Times

- **Guardian Angels’ Church** - Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am, 9am, 6pm
- **St Joseph the Worker Church** - Sunday 8am
- **Nazareth House Chapel** - Sunday 9.30am
- **Iona College Chapel West** - Sunday 7.30am

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### Prep Red
- **Dylan Thacker**
- **Harry Peel**

### 1 Blue
- **SiveMcCullagh**
- **Jarvis Parsons**

### 1 Green
- **Jayden Thomas**
- **Melanie La Frentz**
- **Toby Collins**
- **Navith Wijesooriya**

### 2 Red
- **Hunter McFarlane**
- **Lucia Davis**

### 2 Blue
- **Sam Cunningham**
- **Max Wallis**

### 3 Green
- **Mya Sword**

### 3 Yellow
- **Lillian Gall**

### 5 Blue
- **Tess McNally**
- **Caitlyn Sutherland**

### 6 Red
- **Grace Camacho**
- **Jade Matthews**

### 6 Blue
- **Rylee Hodgetts**
- **Jemima Dorian**
- **Kristyn Jackson**
**Tuckshop Roster**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 8 March</th>
<th>Thursday 10 March</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Lay</td>
<td>Louisa Vourdousis</td>
<td>No Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treena Neve</td>
<td>Katrina Wallis</td>
<td>Tuckshop until Term 2.</td>
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**Pick Up Zone Roster**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>GA MAIN SITE</th>
<th>MC SITE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON</td>
<td>Tracie Porter</td>
<td>Natalie O’Grady</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>Tracie Porter</td>
<td>Natalie O’Grady</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED</td>
<td>Tracie Porter &amp; Hannah Miley</td>
<td>Bridget Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>Hannah Miley &amp; Tracy Allom</td>
<td>Help Needed Please</td>
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**P&F NEWS**

**School Banking**

Our school banking day is *Thursday*.

To make joining easy for parents we will be having an Account Opening Morning on:

**Wednesday 9 March at 8am on the GA Campus green area.**

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along identification such as:

- Existing account details
- Drivers Licence
- Passport

Identification is not required for students currently attending Guardian Angels’ School. Younger siblings are welcome to join in the fun. Please bring along their birth certificate for identification.
St. Patrick’s Day Picnic

Lá Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh!

Kids talent show, prizes for performers & best dressed.
Cost $0. Free sausage sizzle. BYO picnic & alcohol.

Thursday, Mar 17, 2016
5pm - 8pm.

St. John Vianney Church
15 Oceana Terrace, Manly
Contact: Nigel on 0420 958 148 or Libby on 0403 196 019

Find us on Facebook
**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings - away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again! Watch our new video - YouTube: [https://youtu.be/5Hdl2ZDxZXC](https://youtu.be/5Hdl2ZDxZXC)

**Weekend date:** 3 – 5 June 2016

**Venue:**
Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre
Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane’s bayside)

For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy
Ph (07) 3342 1456
dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au

Information website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

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**Easter Passion Play - Brisbane**

**The Iona Passion Play:** 2 performances only
Saturday March 19th & Good Friday March 25th at 7:30pm
at Iona College *Wynnum West* (outdoors)

**Tickets:**
Early Bird: $12-$17
At the Door: $15-$20
Children (under 15) $5
Children (5 & under) FREE

Group discounts available.